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## **California Secretary of State Alex Padilla Statement on Revelation that Kobach and Bannon Drove Inclusion of US Census Citizenship Question**

**SACRAMENTO** – Secretary of State Alex Padilla issued the following statement:

"[Today's revelation](#) that the administration's inclusion of a citizenship question on the upcoming 2020 Census intentionally ignored the Commerce Department's science advisors and came at the direction of former White House chief strategist and senior counsel Steve Bannon and Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach brings into sharp focus this administration's discriminatory and anti-immigrant motivations."

"Such blatant disregard for our Constitution cannot be tolerated. The census requires that every person be counted, and questioning the citizenship of every person in America would undermine the very purpose of the decennial survey."

"We are a nation of immigrants. And each day immigrants contribute to the culture and economy of our great nation. We must renounce and resist this administration's unrelenting attempts to divide our nation. The US Census cannot become a political tool of extremists."

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